

# Stratham Softball Board

## Agenda, Notes, and Action Items

October 10, 2017

### **Agenda**

#### **2017 Review:**

Welcome new Board members

Review Final 2017 budget

Coaches Survey results – address issue out of that

Detailed review of the 6U season specifically. With such a great signup:

- how did it go: pros/cons
- How to ensure they continue to play
- How to get new registrations at 6U to continue to increase player signups

Umpire scheduling and quality review

Uniform process – especially with younger ages and sponsors. What went well, what didn't.

Concession stand – how did it go, profitable?, changes for 2018, girl scout project

RipTide season review

Thank you's for sponsors

EJSL relationship

HYA relationship

#### **Remainder 2017 / 2018 Plans:**

Family Fun Day Homerun Derby 10/14/17

Winter Clinics

Board member structure – changes or new assignments

Marketing / Recruitment for player registration for 2018

Field master plan / Steven's batting cage status / Key purchases for 2018

Fundraising efforts and plans for 2018 season

## October 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Peter Griem, Mike Thornton, Kevin Parmelee, Patrick Sturtevant, Hillary Gaynor, Sean, Cantre Forest, Nicole Hyder, Jim Marsden

### Discussion

#### **Welcome new Board members**

#### **Review Final 2017 budget**

- Current balance: 7937.87
- Ice cream income: 1400
- Sponsorships: 4300
- Car wash 990
- Concession: 366

#### **Coaches Survey results – address issue out of that**

#### **Detailed review of the 6U season specifically. With such a great signup:**

#### **how did it go: pros/cons:**

- Stratham feedback: us doing tee ball, Exeter doing coach pitch; adapted and pitched so some girls; should set limit for number of pitches (5) then hit off the tee
- Exeter had mid-week practices/scrimmage; we could do that next year
- Had good numbers, need to do what we can to get them to come back
  - How to ensure they continue to play
    - Plan to have winter clinics – gear something for returning 6u players?
    - If we could get gym space at SMS, do 4 week program with short games
    - CMS asking for winter plans asap due to outside requests

Younger girls like working with older girls

Basketball ends just before Feb break – consider activities after this

Coaches curriculum – guidance to describe our program, what we're trying to do on the field – to do this consistently and scale up if we have 4-5 6U teams

- Grab Chris from Exeter, Shawn, Peter to work on pulling together outline
- Goals- what do we want them to learn by end of season; Drills to support developing skills; develop a checklist of coach knowledge on rules of the game; Peter hesitant to create guidelines for “how to coach” so as to not limit personal preferences on how to interact with the kids; Cantre Forest suggested this would be more for the people who don't know how to coach, or know what to do to keep the girls active
- Peter: before season; have a couple of coaches do workshops to share best practices
- Peter to check with seacoast bandits on doing a coaches seminar; look into contracting support to provide coaches training or to run skills development
- 
- How to get new registrations at 6U to continue to increase player signups

### **Umpire scheduling and quality review**

- Patrick – good at 10u – consistent, high school kids; opened up strike zone, which was mostly good
  - o Recommend they have clicker, not iphone
  - o Peter bought Stratham girl umpires a shirt, a clicker, and some catcher's gear; could provide better shirt
  - o Good to give girls who came up through program a chance to give back, learn, earn some money
- 12u feedback – very positive
- 8u – asked some 12/14u girls to umpire – good way to feed; Alison Craig – said it was ok, but kids didn't always listen – part of the age group
  - o could limit what they're umpiring and leave the rest up to coaches
  - o Look at giving all the girls a chance to umpire in the last couple of games

### **Uniform process – especially with younger ages and sponsors. What went well, what didn't.**

K – they kept shirts

8u

10u – Patrick got most of them back

Peter got feedback from a sponsor asking why unis were collected – didn't sponsorship cover cost of jersey's?

\$550 sponsorship will cover cost of shirts

Baseball sponsorship is \$250 for a sign; sponsor names don't go on shirts

Quality at different levels and whether we get sponsorship for the program

- 6u should get visors

Cantrece will look at invoices and derive unit cost for each level; Patrick to analyze

- Model overall costs

Set sponsorship tiers based on visibility – one level for sponsoring a team, regardless of level; name on shirt, one level for banner/sign, etc

- Include team photo for sponsor
- Mike will get photos for this year's sponsors

Next meeting: bring in shirt cost data and sponsorship info and decide on sponsorship levels and amounts

### **Concession stand – how did it go, profitable?, changes for 2018, girl scout project**

- Almost done, just need to paint stitches on the softball painted on the floor; many improvements to snack shack and dugouts at MC
- Still on the table to sponsor dugouts from Lowe's at Stevens
- After season, the snack shack wasn't cleaned out and had trash, mouse droppings, was very disheartening for the girl scouts to find that
- Put plaque thanking girl scouts on concession stand

### **RipTide season review**

- 8u had opportunity to go to Florida to play in world series – didn't go but had the chance
  - o Would be good to push to get more Stratham girls involved at younger ages
- 10u advanced to semi finals; Peter got thank you note from parent in Barrington
- both 8 and 10 u parents were very enthusiastic
- 12u made it into states – first time anyone from this region qualified for states, went fairly far
- Jim and Peter to catch up on Riptide 12U B program

### **Thank you's for sponsors**

#### **EJSL relationship**

- Peter got good feedback on this – positive across the board
- Peter would like to look for ways to work closely with Exeter board – opening day, playoffs

#### **HYA relationship**

- 14U is integrated
- 12U some interleague
- 10u separate until playoffs
- 8u completely separate
- no 6u
- differences in level of play, differences in coaching philosophy and program philosophy

Cantrece suggested that Atlantic league meetings of the three programs have meeting minutes published to keep everyone informed

Peter suggested that someone else takes over interaction with HYA to disarm their contention with Peter

Peter will ask Steve S to schedule Atlantic league meeting and include Cantrece

### **Other Updates**

Kevin leaving the board

Peter probably not living in Stratham proper by the start of the season

## **April 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

#### **Attendees:**

Peter Griem,

#### **Discussion**

#### **Prep for Field Day**

Equipment Distribution

Finances

Last Minute Season Planning

Playoff Committee Representation

## **March 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

### **Attendees:**

Peter Griem, Jim Marsden, Patrick Sturtevant, Mike Thornton, Kevin Parmalee, Michaleen Craig, Jen von der Linden, Cantrece Forest

### **Discussion**

#### **Budget**

Mike Thornton presented expenditures, revenues, and fundraising totals

Cantrece noted that the goal should be for annual expenses to match registrations to all additional fundraising to be used for strategic investments

### Equipment/Field Planning

#### **Uniforms**

If we print sponsor logos on back, either need to retire shirts or get sponsors to re-up

#### **Equipment**

Jim got Jugs machine donated – will drop it at Stevens

Cantrece indicated an electrical outlet could be installed at the Stevens pump shed- would need very long extension cord to run Jugs machine at Stevens

Kevin will order two softball feeders and two sets of legs to give three fully functional Jugs machines – authorized to spend \$550 without coming back to board

Kevin will see if draggers can be repaired

#### **Field Improvement**

Dugouts at Stevens – still have donation lined up, need to submit plans and get inspector and BoS approval

Lights at MC – Cantrece will look into getting

Batting cage at Stevens – price out and see if creating two lanes would be cost effective

Cantrece/Kevin to get sprinkler head connected by 2<sup>nd</sup> base in MC field

Kevin will look for new plastic base anchors

### Miscellaneous Topics

#### **Opening Day**

April 9<sup>th</sup> – CMS

Peter would like to do banners for teach team; MC reserved on Sat 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30-12 – coaches schedule timeslots with teams

Need poster boards, paints, markers, etc.

Committee – team names, flyer, set up, hand outs, etc – ask for volunteers to

Jim will contact Steve Singlar to get info and offer help, provide names, etc

Cantrece can send broadcast email to ask for volunteers

#### **Field Day**

Kevin working on list of projects

- Can spread stone around dugouts and shack at MC
- New ramp for MC shack
- Loft and pull down stairs for MC shack

#### **Notable Dates**

Games start around May 2

Coordinators meeting on March 22

## **6U**

Goal to play at a Tball field in Exeter – need to determine how to schedule so Stratham teams use Stratham field while still getting some games at the Exeter field. The goal is not to send our three (3) tee-ball teams to Exeter fields. The P&R department strongly disagrees with this program change and feels the MC field should be used weekly for two (2) 6U teams from 9:00am - 10:30am (45 practice / 45 scrimmage) and one (1) Stratham team will be rotated to the Exeter field to practice/scrimmage an Exeter team on Saturday from 9am - 10:30am.

Cantrece produced an example schedule from RecDesk. This will allow us to provide Exeter a schedule on what Stratham team they should schedule on their field on Saturdays.

A side conversation was had about adding additional practice/playing time for the tee-ball 6U age group. I do not know if this was something discussed at a board meeting and supported but P&R doesn't feel additional time is needed for this age. We need to keep this level of commitment (Saturday am's) even across all youth sports.

## **Registrations**

Kids have to register for program that they are age appropriate for – even if they eventually play up, they have to register for the right age group initially – need to address for next year

## **Record Keeping/Reporting**

Jim to send Cantrece board roles

Agendas and minutes need to be posted on Town Website

Jim to send docs to Cantrece to post

Spending decisions need to be done in a board meeting

**The board thanks Mike Thornton for all his work on fundraising**

## Roster Selection

### **Registrations/Team Count** (after moving some players up)

25 6U – three teams, randomly assign

12 8U – one team

20 10U – two teams

20 12U – two teams

24 14U – two teams (includes four age appropriate for 12U McNulty, Von Der Linden, Orlandi, Gorman)

### **Team/Coach/Field/Practice Day Assignments:**

6U – 3 Teams: Gators, Ducks, Tigers – Saturday morning

Head Coaches: Hyder, Kotkowski, Ciccanesi

Assistants:, Giovanni, Kim, Pacelli, Paradis, Sweeney

8U – 1 Team: Tuesday 4:30-6 Stevens

Stealers: HC Lombardi; Ast: Copp, Kotkowski, Lawley, O'Neill

10U – 2 Teams – Board member observing roster selection: Patrick Sturtevant

Stealers: HC Gorman; Ast: Wheeler, Parmelee – Stevens Friday 5:30/ Tuesday Cage

Team 2: (TBD) HC DeAngelis/Sturtevant – Stevens Thursday 5:30 Tuesday Cage

Additional volunteers: Whitter, Rahn, Donohue

12U – 2 Teams - Board member observing roster selection: Kevin Parmelee

Mudhens: HC Craig; Ast: Parmelee, Linchey - Mon 5:30 - Stevens/Thurs Cage

Wildcats: HC Marsden; Ast: Mollica Tues – 6-7:30 – Stevens; Weds Cage

Assistants: Eastwood, Graziano, Hayward, King

14U – 2 Teams – Board member observing roster selection: Mike Thornton

Wildfire: HC Mike Thornton; Weds – 5:30 Stevens – Monday Cage

Shockwave: HC Peter Griem; Tuesday 5:30 – MC (no games at MC will be scheduled on Tuesday); Friday – 5:30 - Cage

Assistants: Gorman, McNulty, O'Brien, Sveen, Graziano, Ouellette